

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CAIRO 10914 150953Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 IO-14 ISO-00 SSM-05 CIAE-00
DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05
PA-02 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-20 ACDA-12 OMB-01 TRSE-00
HA-05 /134 W

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R 150946Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8026
INFO AMCONSUL ALEXANDRIA
AMEMBASSY AMMAN
USINT BAGHDAD
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION SINAI
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

UNCLAS CAIRO 10914

E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: PEPR EG XF
SUBJECT: PEACE EFFORT CONTINUES; ISRAEL IN LEBANON

REF: CAIRO 10896 (NOTAL)

1. PEACE. SPEAKING IN ASWAN APRIL 14, PRESIDENT SADAT
DECLARED EGYPT WILL CONTINUE PEACE EFFORTS SO LONG
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AS THESE HAVE NOT FAILED. PRESIDENT CLAIMED DECISION
EXCLUDE WAR "NOT NEW"; SAID PEACE INITIATIVE REMAINS
VALID. SADAT EXPRESSED HIS FULL APPROVAL OF JOINT
CARTER/CEAUSESCU STATEMENT ENDORSING PARTICIPATION
ALL CONCERNED PARTIES IN MIDDLE EAST NEGOTIATIONS,
INCLUDING REPRESENTATIVES OF PALESTINIAN PEOPLE.

2. POLL. PAPER REPORTED, WITHOUT COMMENT, LATEST NEW YORK TIMES/CBS PUBLIC OPINION POLL DEMONSTRATING DECREASED SUPPORT FOR ISRAEL, WITH PUBLIC BACKING FOR ARABS REMAINING APPROXIMATELY SAME. MORE THAN HALF U.S. PUBLIC SAID TO FAVOR SADAT'S HANDLING MIDDLE EAST PEACE EFFORTS.

3. LEBANON. CITING NO SOURCES, PRESS REPORTED ISRAEL HALTED WITHDRAWAL FROM SOUTHERN LEBANON AND PREVENTED UNIFIL FROM MOVING FORWARD. (INCORRECTLY) PAPERS POSITED THIS BEHIND WALDHEIM DECISION FLY TO MIDDLE EAST TO ENABLE SYG PERSONALLY HANDLE SITUATION. QUOTING SYRIAN PAPERS, PRESS CLAIMED WALDHEIM WILL VISIT DAMASCUS IN ADDITION TO BEIRUT AND JERUSALEM.

4. RECONCILIATION. EDITORIALY, AHARAM DECRIED RETURN OF CIVIL WAR ATMOSPHERE TO LEBANON, WHICH OFFERS ISRAEL OPPORTUNITY CONSOLIDATE OCCUPATION. PAPER CALLED ON ALL FACTIONS COORDINATE EFFORTS IN ORDER SECURE IMMEDIATE ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL. PALESTINIAN QUESTION, AND INTERNAL DIFFERENCES, "WOULD BE EASILY SOLVED" FOLLOWING END ISRAELI OCCUPATION.

5. EGYPT'S IMAGE. WRITING FROM WASHINGTON, MOUSTAFA AMIN CLAIMED EGYPTIAN IMAGE GREATLY ENHANCED AS RESULT SADAT'S PEACE INITIATIVE. EGYPTIANS VIEWED WITH UNCLASSIFIED

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ADMIRATION AND APPRECIATION, AS CIVILIZED PEOPLE WHO KNOW HOW TO FIGHT, HOW TO WIN, AND HOW TO BEFRIEND. AMERICANS REPORTEDLY CONSIDER SADAT SYMBOL OF PEACE AND HOPE. PEACE INITIATIVE NO LONGER HIS ALONE: MILLIONS OF PEACE-LOVING PEOPLE HAVE ADOPTED IT AS PARTNERS. BEGIN, ON OTHER HAND, SEEN AS "LETTING DOWN THE WHOLE HUMANITY." EILTS

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